

birmingham.gov.uk/litterpick



ORGANISING A COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP



If you are thinking of organising a community clean-up, we can help! Here are some useful tips to help make your clean-up a success.

1. Choose an area you want to clean up. For safety reasons we advise you stay away from A or B roads. It is also a good idea to steer clear of water, rocks and large areas of mud.
2. Obtaining permission to hold your event is important. If it is Birmingham City Council land then we give you permission to conduct the event. However, if it is privately owned land, you must get permission from the landowner(s). If you need help locating them we can help.
3. Decide when to do it. If it is a one-off event then think about who you would like to join in and when they might be available.
4. Tell people, and us! Follow the link on this web page to register your event. Tell your friends, family, and neighbours you need their help. Make it easy for people to join in – can they just drop in for 10 minutes? You can use posters, word of mouth, social media and community notice boards to advertise your event locally.
5. Share your before and after photos on social media
 - a. make sure to say where the litter pick took place.
 - b. use the hashtag **#CleanerBrum**.
 - c. tag us in on Twitter **@BhamCityCouncil**.

You can also email photos to us at **wasteprevention@birmingham.gov.uk**.



How we can help

We can provide you with some equipment and help you to publicise your event.

Our litter picking kit includes:

- Litter pickers (for adults and children).
- High visibility vests (for adults and children).
- Refuse bags.

We will also come and collect any rubbish when you have finished.

Stay safe

Here are some tips to make the most of your litter pick, while making sure everyone stays safe:

- Be aware of your environment and do not put yourself at risk whilst picking litter.
- Be aware of traffic at all times and stop picking to allow any vehicles to pass.
- Wear sturdy shoes and weather appropriate clothing.
- Avoid litter picking in adverse weather conditions, or when visibility is poor, such as during snow, heavy rain and extreme heat.
- Use litter pickers and avoid direct contact with litter at all times.
- Do not touch or move any items that cannot easily be identified or where they are clearly hazardous, dead or live animals and needles or drug paraphernalia.

Instead report it to us immediately: **0121 303 1112**.

- Rubbish should not be compressed using hands or feet as this can puncture the skin.
- Ensure any cuts or abrasions are clean and covered with a waterproof plaster.
- Do not overfill bin bags and avoid lifting heavy objects or sacks alone.
- Do not confront anyone you see littering.
- Follow local rules as well as our guidelines, including safe and lawful parking.
- Clean hands thoroughly afterwards, and before eating or drinking.

Useful contacts

Birmingham City Council:

0121 303 1112 (Monday to Friday).

RSPCA for animals in distress:

0300 123 8585.

Emergency services: **999** or **101**.

If you would like to run regular litter picking activities then ask us if we know of other communities doing the same in your area or find your nearest litter group here: **www.litteraction.org.uk**. You can share ideas with them, learn about what they do, find out how they got funding for their equipment and how they try to stop littering in the first place.

Thank you for joining in the effort to clean our city's streets.